

# City of Battle Creek Fire Department



## 2021 Annual Report



City of Battle Creek Fire Department  
195 E. Michigan Avenue  
Battle Creek, MI 49014  
(269) 966-3519

[battlecreekmi.gov](http://battlecreekmi.gov)

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## BCFD Mission Statement

The Battle Creek Fire Department shall provide responsive quality emergency services and public safety education to our community. Promoting safety, well-being, and enhanced quality of life for all visitors and residents.



## BCFD Core Values

Preserving **Honor** through respect and integrity. Maintaining **Competence**, through training and professional development. Providing services that meet and exceed industry standards for **Excellence**. Utilizing **Predictability** to address internal and external customer service needs. Providing an atmosphere that encourages **Loyalty** and camaraderie. Providing a climate of **Inclusion** devoid of racism, sexism, favoritism and nepotism. Embracing **Accountability** to ensure all members contribute to organizational success.



## BCFD Vision Statement

"The Battle Creek Fire Department strives for industry best practice and excellence in emergency preparedness, response and mitigation. Our efforts are customer-focused, innovative, and driven toward world class emergency services delivery."





# Battle Creek Fire Department



*From the Desk of Fire Chief Brian Sturdivant*

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## 2021 Annual Report: Message from the Fire Chief

I am pleased to share our 2021 annual report. Inside, you will find not only statistics about our responses but also some insight into our accomplishments during the last calendar year. While this report is based on the 2021 calendar year, it will also highlight some initiatives for the coming year.

The City of Battle Creek Fire Department is a professional organization dedicated to serving our community and visitors with pride, excellence and professionalism. The department strives to provide an exemplary level of service to our 54,000 citizens who call Battle Creek home as well as to the many visitors that come to the "Cereal City" of Michigan. We continue to be a full service fire department with our 80 personnel providing services out of six stations.

Last year we provided service to our customers by responding to more than 7500 incidents as well as focusing on emergency preparedness through the City's Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, fire safety and education through our Fire Prevention Division, and supporting our emergency services delivery operation our Suppression, Training, and Administrative Divisions.

Battle Creek continues to change and evolve which leads us to seek new approaches to offer assistance while collaborating with public, private and nonprofit sectors. Our dedicated personnel remain nimble, creative and resilient. When presented with a challenge, we work together to find solutions. This is why I am so proud of each member of our department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Sturdivant, Fire Chief





# Battle Creek Fire Department



*From the Desk of Fire Chief Brian Sturdivant*

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## BATTLE CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENT 2021 SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENT

### **GRANTS (Awards):**

- State of MI 5<sup>th</sup> District Homeland Security Haz Mat Grant \$50,000

### **FIRE RIGS/APPARATUS:**

- Technology install - Implementation of new iPads on all fire rigs
- Updated fire rig check process to digital format
- "Old" E2 and Squad 2 to Biddergy, fire revenue
- Approved State of MI EMS certifications for "New" E2 and Squad 6

### **TRAINING:**

- Appointment of new Training Officer
- On-boarding of seven new probationary Firefighters
- Fire, Special Ops, and EMS training updates for all members
- Tier II Haz Mat response information updated into ERS pre-plans

### **ADMINISTRATION:**

- Deputy Fire Chief Recruitment (new classification)
- Replaced roof at Station 3, awarded contract for Station 4 roof replacement
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) upgrade MSA G I model
- New PPE (turn-out gear) and updated station uniforms (badge shirts, T-shirts, sweatshirts)
- Fire Facilities re-organization (Station 1, Elm St.)

### **COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION:**

- Successful (virtual) Fire Prevention Week Open House
- Implementation of virtual business inspection process

### **UPCOMING DEPARTMENTAL HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Grant applications
  - Calhoun County AFG PPE Turn-Out Gear
  - Calhoun County AFG Radios
- Station 4 Structural Assessment/Industrial Hygienist Assessment
- City PD, FD, EMS Emergency Services Delivery Assessment
- Protect the Protectors Brain Health fire personnel assessment



## City of Battle Creek Fire Department Organization Chart



## Members of the City of Battle Creek Fire Department

Fire Chief: Brian Sturdivant

Executive Assistant: Deanna Perry

Deputy Chief: Vacant

Fire Marshal: Lt Quincy Jones

Training Officer: Shea Peters

### A Shift

#### **Battalion Chief**

Michele Hughey

#### **Station 2**

Capt. Scott Barnes

Lt Jeremy Pratt

FF David Wuis

FF Gary Metheny

FF Shaun Hughes

PFF Steven Nemeth

#### **Station 3**

Lt Brad Barney

EO Jayeson Tkac

FF Josh Cushman

FF Shane Holly

PFF Michael Asiala

#### **Station 4**

Lt Jeannell Justin

EO Lucas Hillard

FF Brock Howland

#### **Station 5**

Lt Holly VanSickle

EO Greg Smith

FF Patrick Cleland

#### **Station 6**

Capt Chris Love

Lt Scott Keeler

EO Todd Aupperlee

EO Chad Hughes

FF Ben Barle

PFF Nicholas Mingle

### B Shift

#### **Battalion Chief**

Matt Beauchamp

#### **Station 2**

Capt. Derek Malone

Lt Cody Titus

EO Tracey Walker

FF James Mervyn

FF Jon Ekema

PFF Markell Spivey

#### **Station 3**

Lt Andre Doser

EO Jaye Tkac

FF Joe Shanks

FF Brendon Caid

#### **Station 4**

Lt Jake Martin

EO Walter Hardy

FF Ralf Willms

FF Jessica Lindquist

#### **Station 5**

Lt Todd Miller

EO Nate Stencil

FF Michael Tobin

#### **Station 6**

Capt Shawn Metheny

Lt Scott Williamson

EO Jeff Hudson

EO Ryan Johnson

FF Steve Foster

PFF Ryan Wright

### C Shift

#### **Battalion Chief**

Michael Fleisher

#### **Station 2**

Capt. Eric Haines

Lt Bush McCarthy

EO Tim Gieske

FF Kurt Hoeksema

FF Josh Hagen

FF Zach Mueller

PFF Brad Root

#### **Station 3**

Lt LaMarr Mingle

EO Justin Coffey

FF Kyle Williams

#### **Station 4**

Lt Nick Brizendine

EO Jared Willman

FF Chad Stuck

FF Jill Wood

FF Bill Payne

PFF Yoshi Fujita

#### **Station 5**

Lt Mark Koch

EO Gus Furman

FF Shaun Kelly

#### **Station 6**

Capt Dan Wolfe

Lt JD Ramey

EO Jake Gray

EO Kevin Lohrke

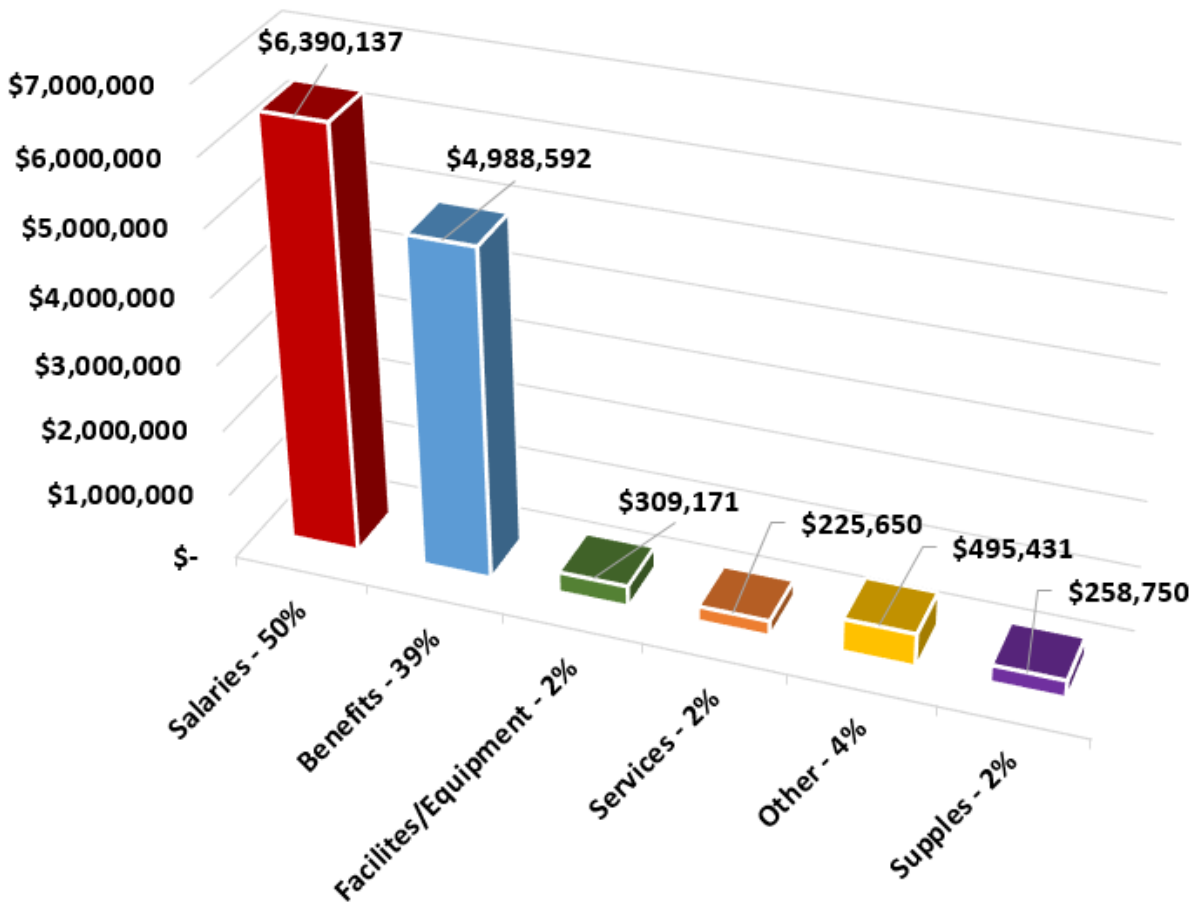
FF Adam Upston



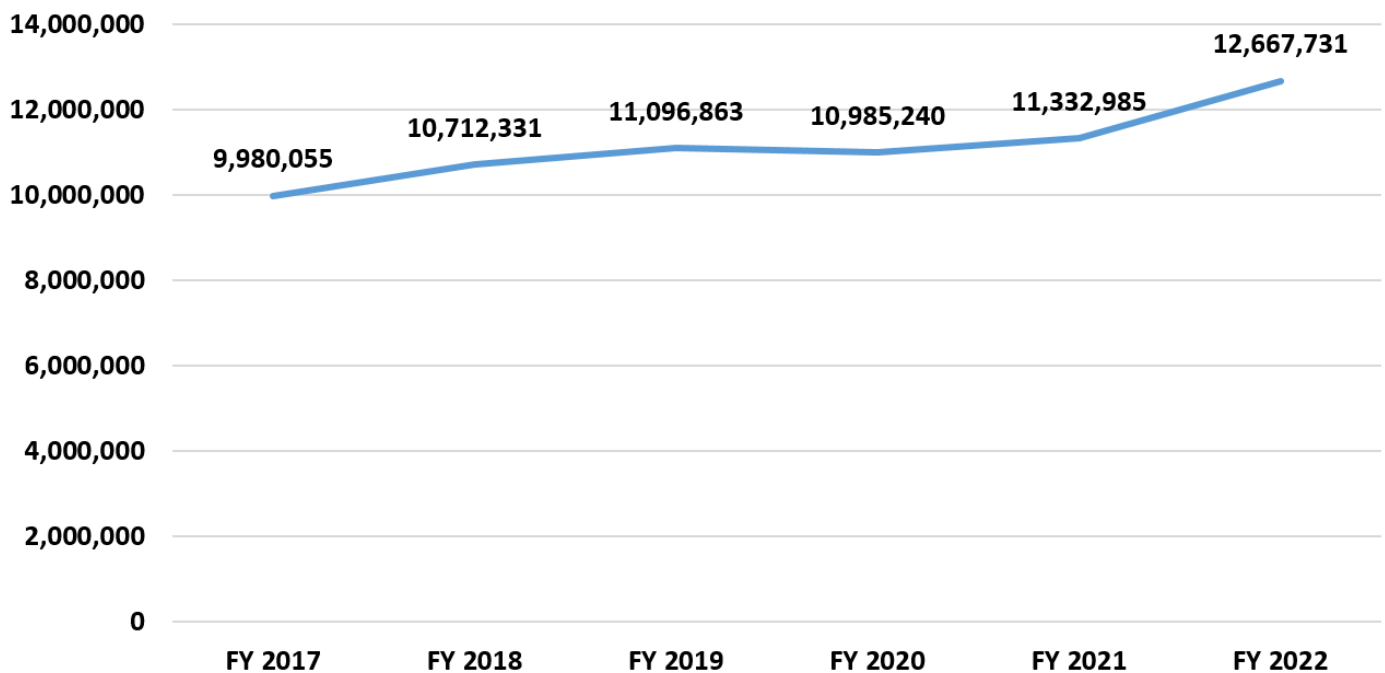


## Financial and Growth Information

### FY 2021-2022 Budget



### Budget Trendline





## **BCFD INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE (ISO) PUBLIC PROTECTION CLASSIFICATION (PPC):3**

ISO utilizes a fire suppression-rating schedule that assigns numeric value to a community's fire prevention and protection capabilities. Those values then determine the 1 to 10 score we are familiar with, which ISO call the Public Protection Classification. A score of 1 is the highest rating, a rating of 10 means the community does not meet the minimum fire protection and prevention standards.

ISO provides advisory services and information to many insurance companies. They also develop and publish policy language that many insurance companies use as the basis for their products.

There are 105.5 possible points for a PPC of one. However, fire departments only have control over 55.5 points as such:

- 40 points overall for community water supply
- 10 points how well the fire department receives and dispatches fire alarms
- 5.5 points for community risk reduction and fire prevention efforts

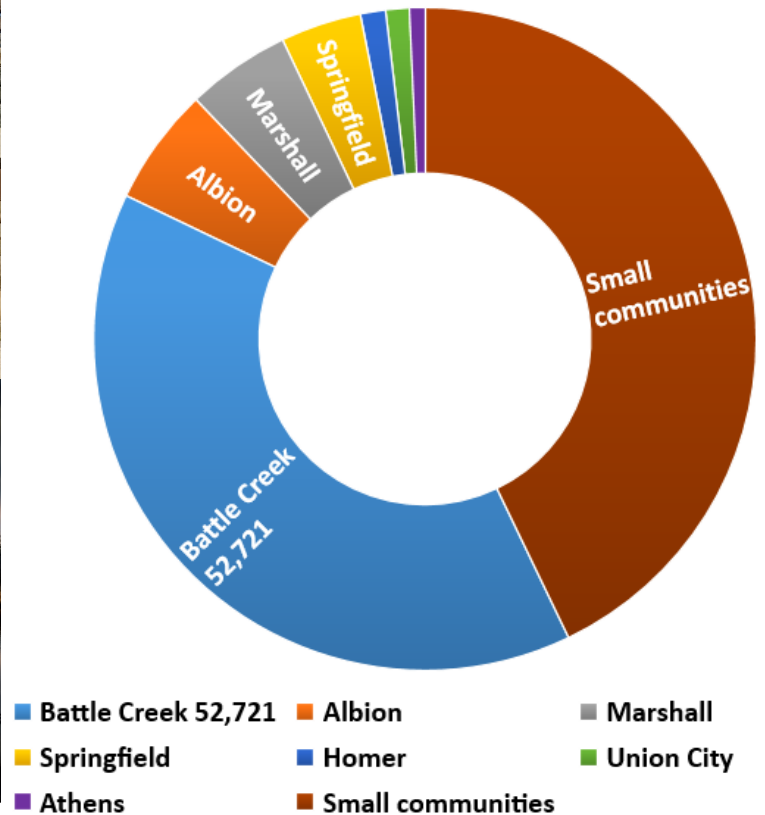
ISO is a private entity and has no power to issue fines or limit operations, unlike OSHA/ MIOSHA. The ISO scores are widely published and utilized. BCFD initially planned for a 2021 ISO review, however, due to COVID, we have pushed this process out to 2023. There have been several significant upgrades within our system since 2016.

We feel very confident that our PPC will increase from the current rating of 3 to an updated, enhanced rating of 2. When this happens, it will signify BCFD's continued commitment to community protection and economic development.





Calhoun County Population 134,310 (2020 census)



# City of Battle Creek

## City Administration

- Rebecca Fleury—City Manager
- Ted Dearing—Assistant City Manager
- Jill Steele—City Attorney

## Commission Members

- Mark Behnke—Mayor At-Large
- Kaytee Faris—Vice Mayor At-Large
- Kristin Blood—Ward 1
- Jenasia Morris—Ward 2
- Boonikka Herring—Ward 3
- Kathy Szenda Wilson—Ward 4
- Jim Lance—Ward 5
- Carla Reynolds—At-Large
- Sherry Sofia—At-Large







# Fire Station Information





# Station 1

195 E. Michigan Ave.  
Total Response: 305



# Station 2

145 N. Washington Ave.  
Total Response: 1874





# Station 3

222 Cliff St.  
Total Response: 1679



# Station 4

8 S. 20th St.  
Total Response: 1765





# Station 5

1170 W. Michigan Ave.  
Total Response: 1230

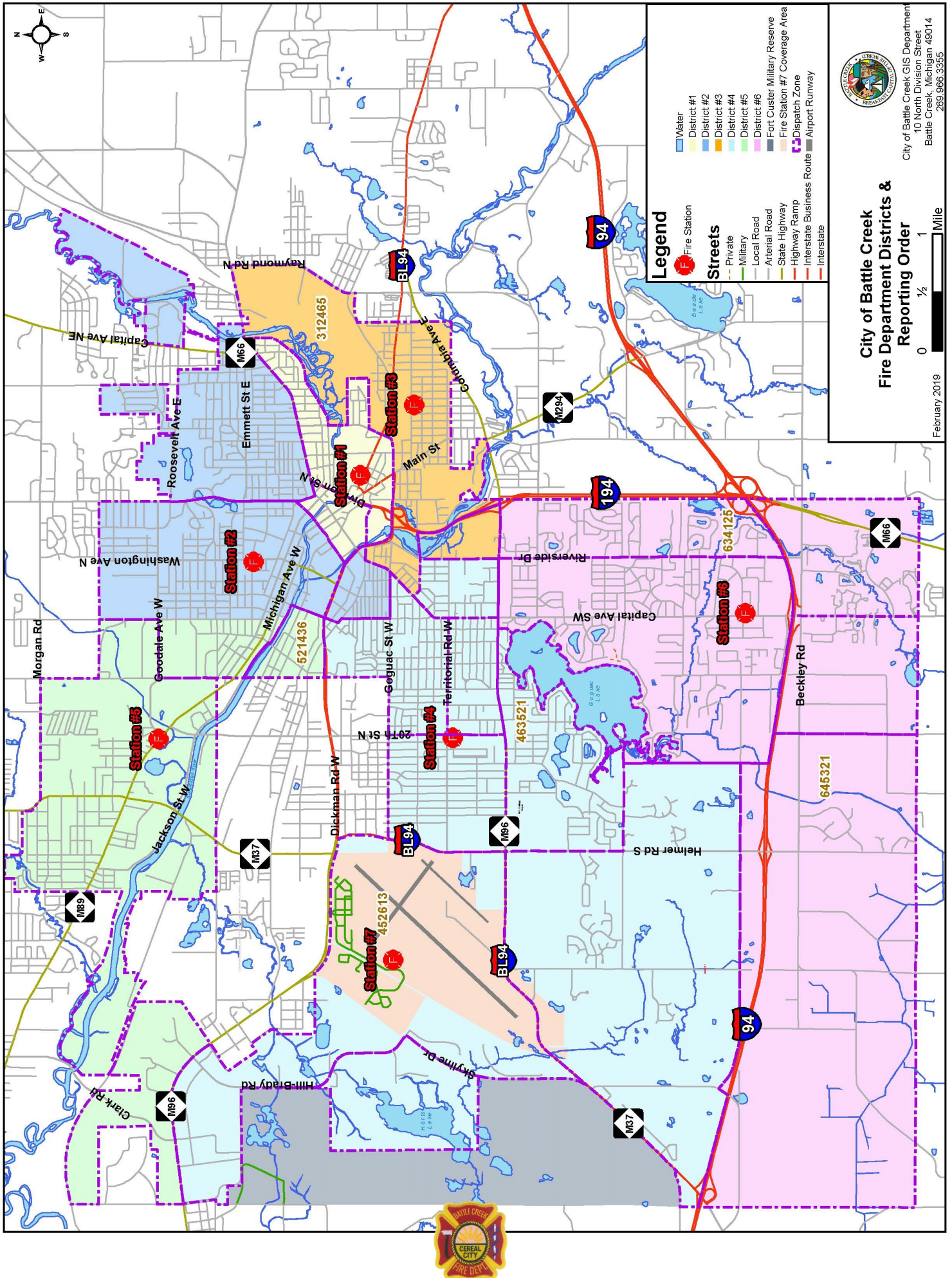


# Station 6

2401 Capital Ave. SW  
Total Response: 1470











# Apparatus In Service





# Apparatus in Service

The City of Battle Creek Fire Department operates a variety of fire, emergency service apparatus, and support vehicles to provide service to our citizens.

<u>Station and Equipment Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
<b>Station 1</b>		
GMC Yukon 4x4	2014	Car 1
GMC Yukon XL	2015	Car 3
Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4	2009	Car 4
GMC Yukon XL	2017	Car 5
E-One 1750 GPM Pump Reserve Engine	1997	Engine 7
E-One 1750 GPM Pump Reserve Engine	1997	Engine 8
Interstate Trailer	2016	TRT Trailer
Spartan Rescue Squad	2006	Haz-Mat 1
Wells Cargo	2003	Haz-Mat Trailer
ARGO + Trailer + Water Pump	2018	ARGO
Safety House	2000	BCFD Smokehouse
<b>Station 2</b>		
Spartan Fire Engine	2020	Engine 2
Ford F-350 4x4	2016	Squad 2
<b>Station 3</b>		
Spartan Spencer 1500 GPM Rescue	2017	Engine 3
Chevrolet Blazer 4x4	2006	Staff vehicle
<b>Station 4</b>		
Spartan Spencer 1500 GPM Rescue	2017	Rescue 4
Chevrolet 2500 4X4 Plow Truck	2001	Car 10
Alweld Connector Boat + motor	2017	Boat 1
Inmar Inflatable Boat + motor	2017	Boat 2
<b>Station 5</b>		
Spartan Engine	2021	Engine 5
<b>Station 6</b>		
Spartan Fire Truck 100' Aerial	2016	Truck 6
Ford F-350 4x4	2021	Squad 6
<b>Station 7</b>		
Osh Kosh T-1500	2015	ARFF Crash 9
Osh Kosh T-1500	2015	ARFF Crash 10



## Fire Training Program

Training is an essential component to providing effective firefighting services. The Training Division directs all training for Battle Creek's 77 fire personnel. In 2021, Battle Creek's Training Officer position was vacant until Fall. In October of 2021, Fire Fighter Shea Peters was hired to lead the division.

Firefighters are required to become certified Firefighter I and II by the State of Michigan, plus receive 24 hours of Hazardous Materials training. Once all this is complete, all newly hired firefighters go through a 12-month probationary training period where they learn our procedures, techniques, equipment, apparatus, streets, and other fire fighting skills.

### Skills & Training Topics

Training includes all skills a firefighter may need to perform in their line of duty. Topics include:

- Apparatus
- Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF)
- Basic Skills
- Equipment
- Fire Prevention and Education
- Hazardous Materials
- Medical
- Officer Training
- Safety
- Site Surveys
- Technical Rescue



### Training Hours

Training Categories	2020	2021
Company training	2125	2364
Officer training	1629	93
Driver/Operator training	773	3224
Hazardous materials	458	53
ARFF	30	6
Fire prevention	452	97
Apparatus training	1444	676
Specialty training (tech rescue)	20	13
Medical training	165	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,096</b>	<b>6,545</b>



## HazMat Team

There are 16 personnel on the HazMat team trained to the Hazardous Materials Technician level. The technicians are required to obtain additional training courses compliant to NFPA 472 which is equivalent to 300 hours of additional specialized training. Topics include air monitoring, incident management, evidence collection and sampling, chemistry, hazard and risk analysis, and decontamination.

The team also has technicians who hold subject matter specialty in incidents such as: Highway Cargo Incidents, Railroad Response, Radiological Emergencies, Chemical and Biological Weapons, and Explosives.

Team members have traveled to specialized schools for training such as the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Training Center in Lansing, Michigan as well as free, federally-funded courses through The Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama, the Counter Terrorism Operations Support School in Mercury, Nevada, the Specialized Emergency Response Training Center in Pueblo, Colorado, and New Mexico Technical University in Socorro, New Mexico.

The team holds annual refresher training to remain up to date on new or emerging threats and to practice hands-on skills with monitoring equipment or other specialized tools used in response.

In 2021, the Battle Creek Fire Department received a \$50,000 Michigan 5<sup>th</sup> District Homeland Security Planning/Preparedness grant which was used to purchase equipment, maintain current equipment, or replace outdated equipment. The team also obtained a battery powered extrication tool.

### HazMat Statistics

ACTIVITY	2020	2021
NFIRS Code Range 400-431 (Hazardous Materials Codes)	76	106
NFIRS Code 724 & 766 (Carbon Monoxide)	32	30
NFIRS Code 671 (HazMat Release Investigation)	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>137</b>

\*NFIRS– National Fire Incident Reporting System





## Technical Rescue Team

The Battle Creek Fire Department has 19 personnel on its Technical Rescue Team (TRT). All members are trained in accordance with NFPA 1670 standards for operation and training and are in compliance with OSHA 1910.146 permit required confined space.

All team members are trained for technical rope rescue technician level, as well as, confined space rescue technician level, which is a 40-hour course. Six members are trained for the tactical rope rescue operations level.

Battle Creek also has 6 members of its team on the MI-TRT-5 district team, 5 of those members having been trained to operations level in collapse rescue and trench rescue.

The 5<sup>th</sup> District also has equipped Battle Creek with a trailer for housing its technical rescue equipment. The equipment for the trailer has been provided through the efforts of the Battle Creek Fire Department and the Michigan 5<sup>th</sup> District meeting NFPA 1983 equipment compliance standards.

In 2021, the team continued its work with the City of Battle Creek Risk Management Department to address any potential special operations needs.





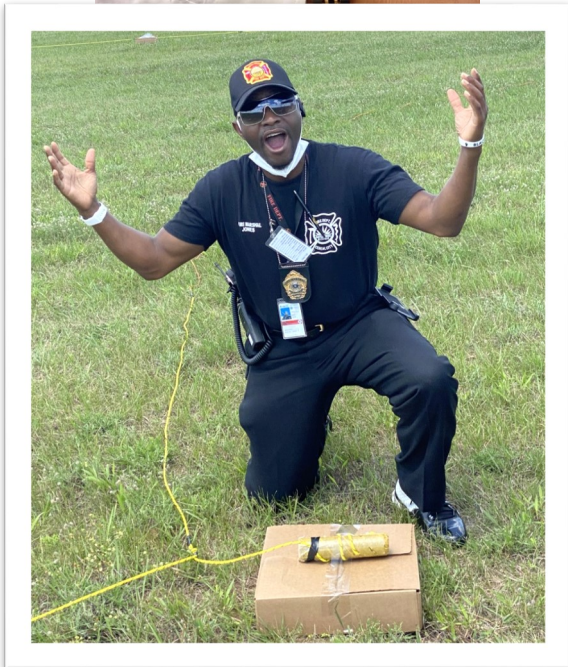
## Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Prevention Bureau was established by the Battle Creek City Commission as a division of the Battle Creek Fire Department (BCFD) in 1975. The Bureau is located inside Fire Station 1, 195 East Michigan Avenue.

### Functions

The functions of the Bureau are defined by ordinance and include coordinating **fire investigations**, **fire prevention inspections**, and **fire safety programs**.

- Fire Prevention Week Education - October 3, 2021 through October 9, 2021. The theme this year was "Learn the sounds of fire safety".
- The fire prevention team held an open house for fire prevention week at fire station 6 on Capital Ave. SW. The event was held on Saturday, October 9, 2021.



### Fire Prevention Statistics

ACTIVITY	2020	2021
Inspections	132	202
PR Events	17	31
Fire Investigations—Closed	18	23
Arsons	8	5
Juvenile fire setter	0	0
Smoke alarm installed	113	74
Carbon Monoxide alarms installed	18	27
*2021 results impacted by program suspensions that resulted due to the pandemic.*		





## Public Education

1. **Station Tours:** Basic fire safety education is taught to children, by firefighters, during station tours. The basic information is in an outline called "What Every Child Should Know".
2. **Public Talks:** Presentations to groups are made by the Fire Chief or Fire Marshal.
3. **Public Programs for Children:** Presentations to large groups of children use the "Fire Safety Trailer" and/or "Pluggie" the robot. The Fire Safety Trailer was gifted to the BCFD by the Battle Creek Kiwanis Club. The trailer is used during Fire Prevention Week each fall and is brought to all 20 elementary schools in the city limits each spring. The trailer teaches children from kindergarten to third grade basic fire safety, including "how to survive a fire at home."
4. **Juvenile Fire Setting:** The Fire Marshal coordinates a task force that operates an educational intervention program for families with juvenile fire setters.
5. **Fire Prevention Week:** The BCFD partners with other city departments and community organizations to provide an area-wide educational program during National Fire Prevention Week each October. This program includes a media blitz, individual presentations to each kindergarten classroom, fire safety literature used in every K-3 classroom, fire safety literature sent to the home of every K-3 student, and a Saturday afternoon family entertainment program that is designed to be educational.



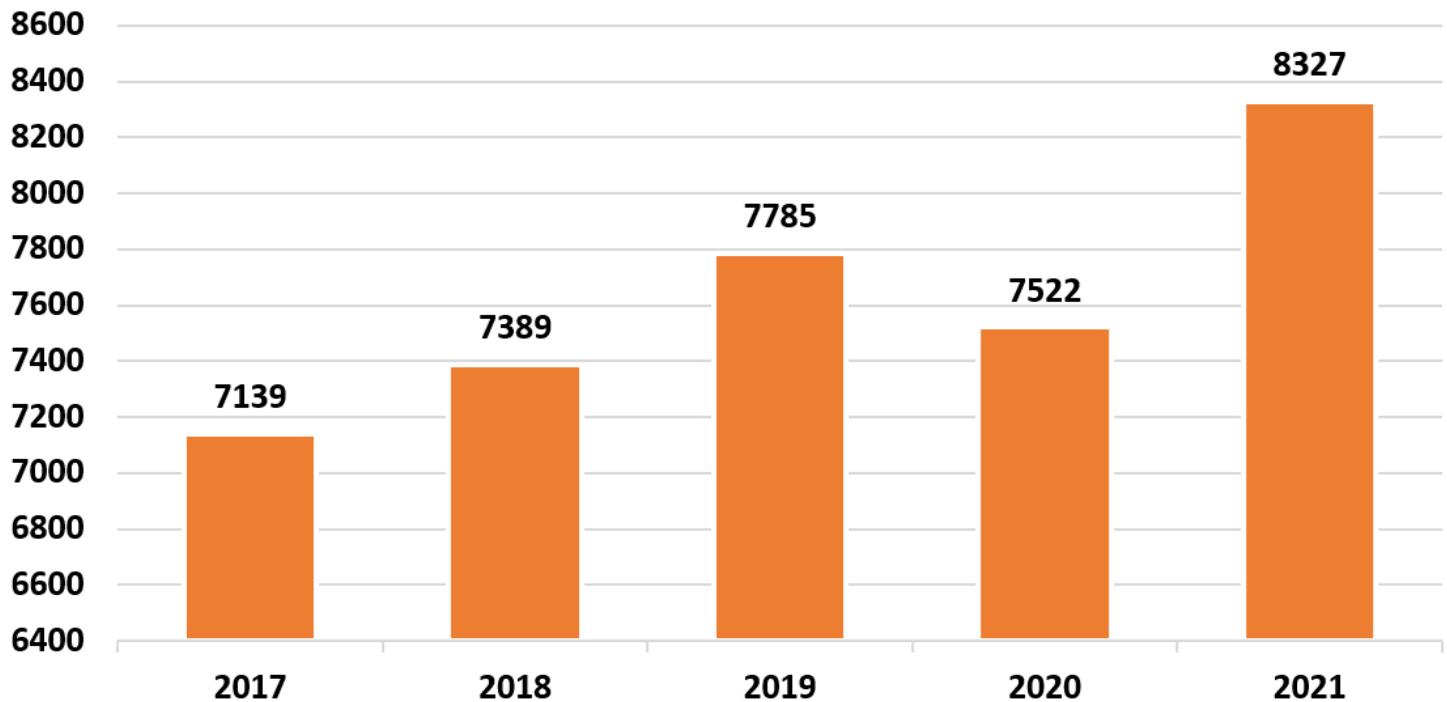




## Incident Data and Emergency Response Statistics



## TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE



YEAR	INCIDENTS
2017	7139
2018	7389
2019	7785
2020	7522
2021	8327

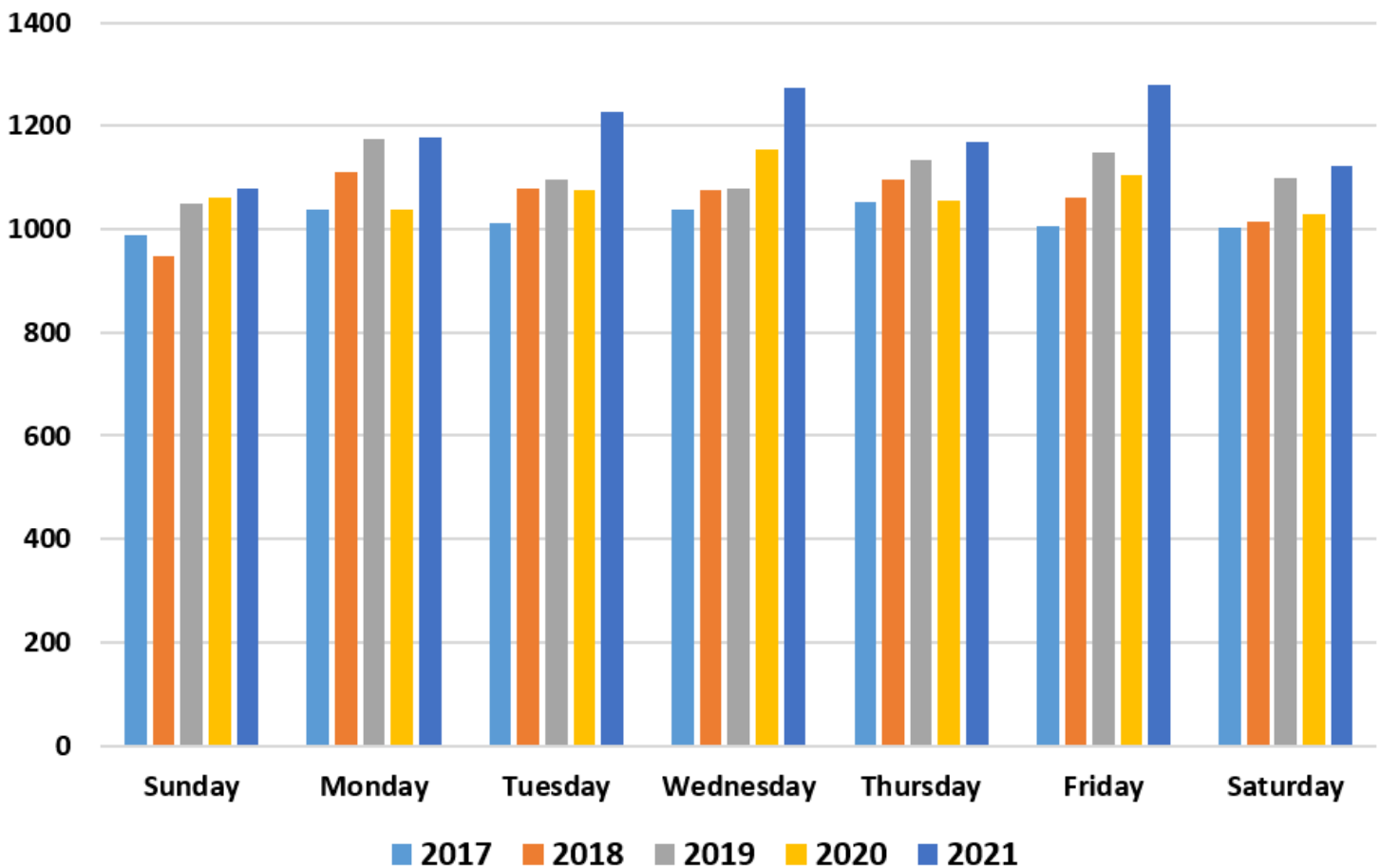
Response Mode (in minutes)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Lights and Sirens	4.61	4.77	4.79	4.37	4.76
Initial Lights and Sirens, Downgraded to No Lights or Sirens	6.24	6.38	5.74	6.24	5.37
Initial No Lights and Sirens, Upgraded to Lights and Sirens	6.63	6.45	6.31	5.48	5.49
No Lights or Sirens	5.82	6.13	6.47	7.30	6.04
Average	5.83	5.93	5.83	6.09	5.42





<b>CALLS BY DAY OF THE WEEK</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Sunday	990	949	1051	1061	1079
Monday	1038	1112	1176	1037	1177
Tuesday	1012	1078	1096	1076	1227
Wednesday	1037	1077	1080	1156	1274
Thursday	1052	1096	1133	1057	1168
Friday	1007	1061	1150	1106	1280
Saturday	1003	1016	1099	1029	1122

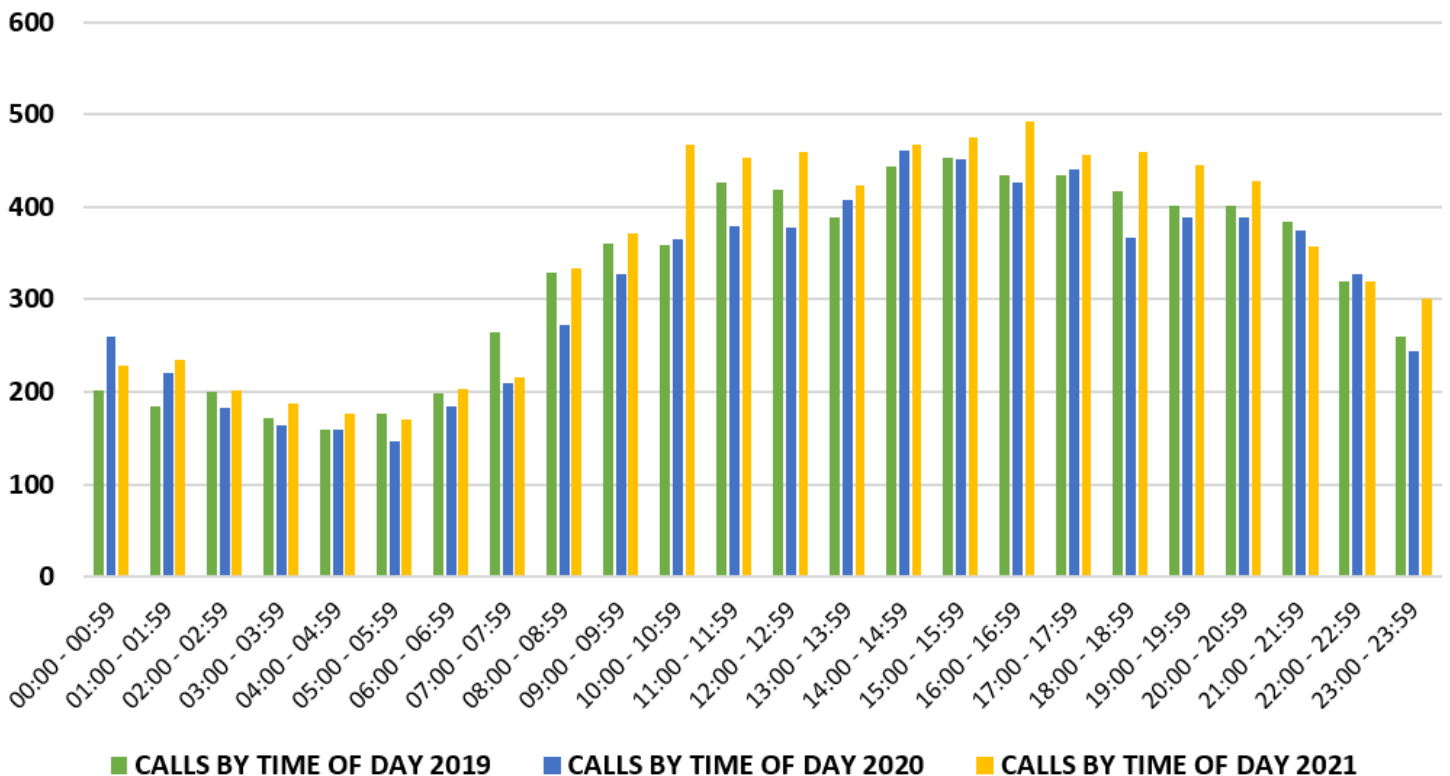
## CALLS BY THE DAY OF THE WEEK



## CALLS BY TIME OF DAY

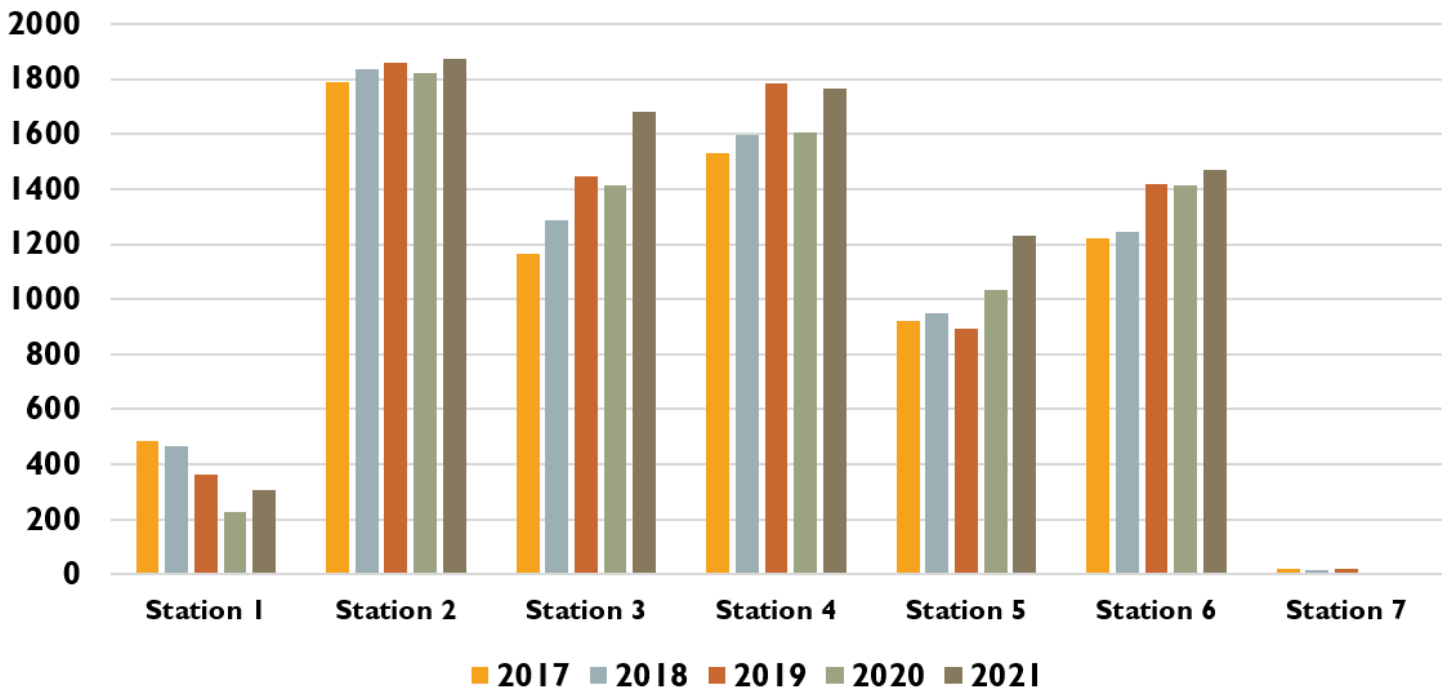
TIME	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
00:00 - 00:59	238	211	202	260	228
01:00 - 01:59	202	195	184	220	234
02:00 - 02:59	163	180	200	182	202
03:00 - 03:59	151	160	171	164	187
04:00 - 04:59	150	160	159	159	176
05:00 - 05:59	145	180	176	146	170
06:00 - 06:59	178	162	199	185	203
07:00 - 07:59	228	267	265	209	215
08:00 - 08:59	280	263	329	273	334
09:00 - 09:59	294	351	360	328	371
10:00 - 10:59	340	399	359	365	467
11:00 - 11:59	387	400	427	380	453
12:00 - 12:59	399	405	418	377	460
13:00 - 13:59	411	408	388	407	424
14:00 - 14:59	408	427	443	461	468
15:00 - 15:59	412	431	453	451	476
16:00 - 16:59	423	379	434	426	492
17:00 - 17:59	387	374	434	440	457
18:00 - 18:59	373	413	417	367	459
19:00 - 19:59	362	356	402	388	445
20:00 - 20:59	350	358	401	389	428
21:00 - 21:59	336	358	384	374	357
22:00 - 22:59	304	291	320	327	320
23:00 - 23:59	218	261	260	244	301

## CALLS BY TIME OF DAY



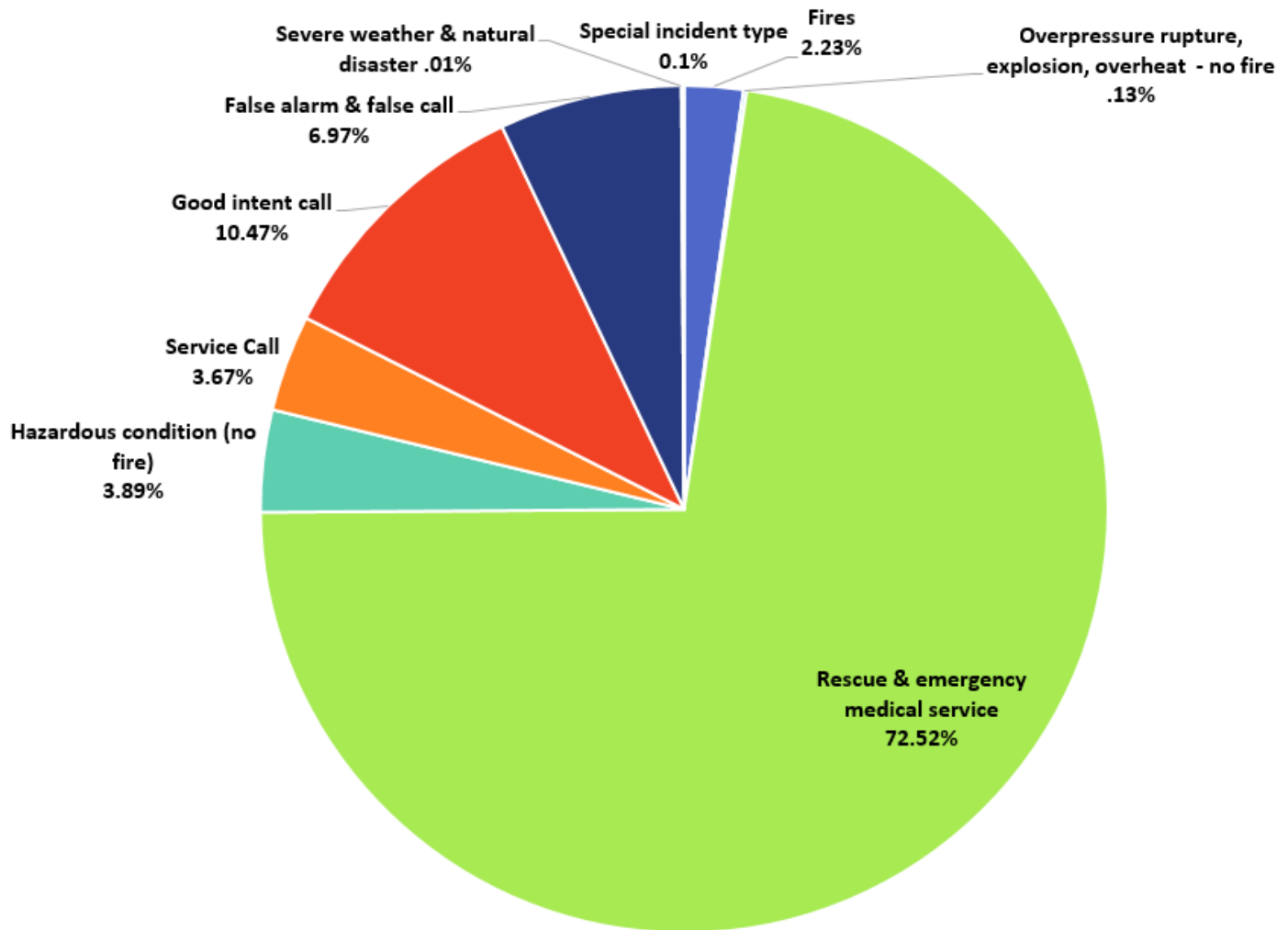
<b>CALLS PER DISTRICT</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>CHANGE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2021</b>
Station 1	484	464	363	227	305	+78
Station 2	1791	1835	1860	1821	1874	+53
Station 3	1167	1286	1446	1414	1679	+265
Station 4	1533	1597	1784	1606	1765	+159
Station 5	922	949	894	1036	1230	+194
Station 6	1223	1244	1416	1412	1470	+58
Station 7	19	14	22	6	4	-2
Total	7139	7389	7785	7522	8327	+805

## CALLS PER DISTRICT





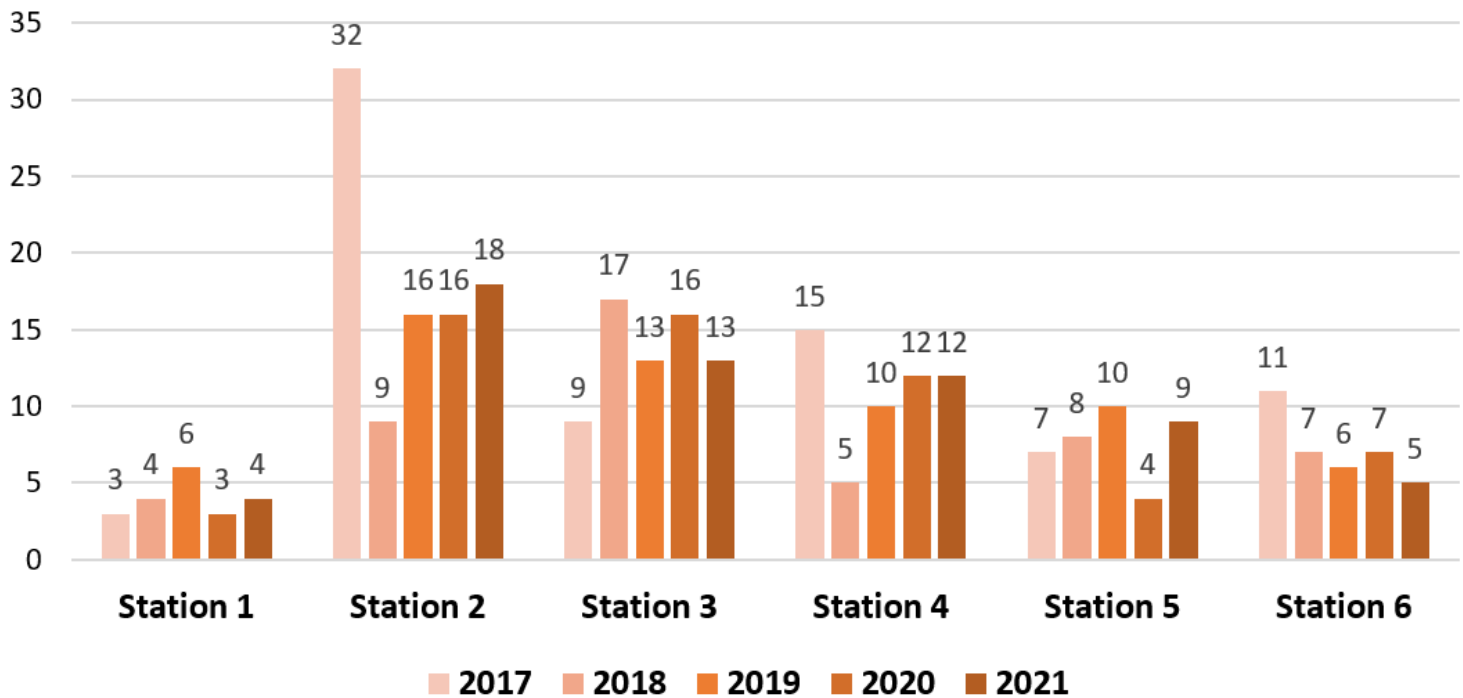
## Incident Data



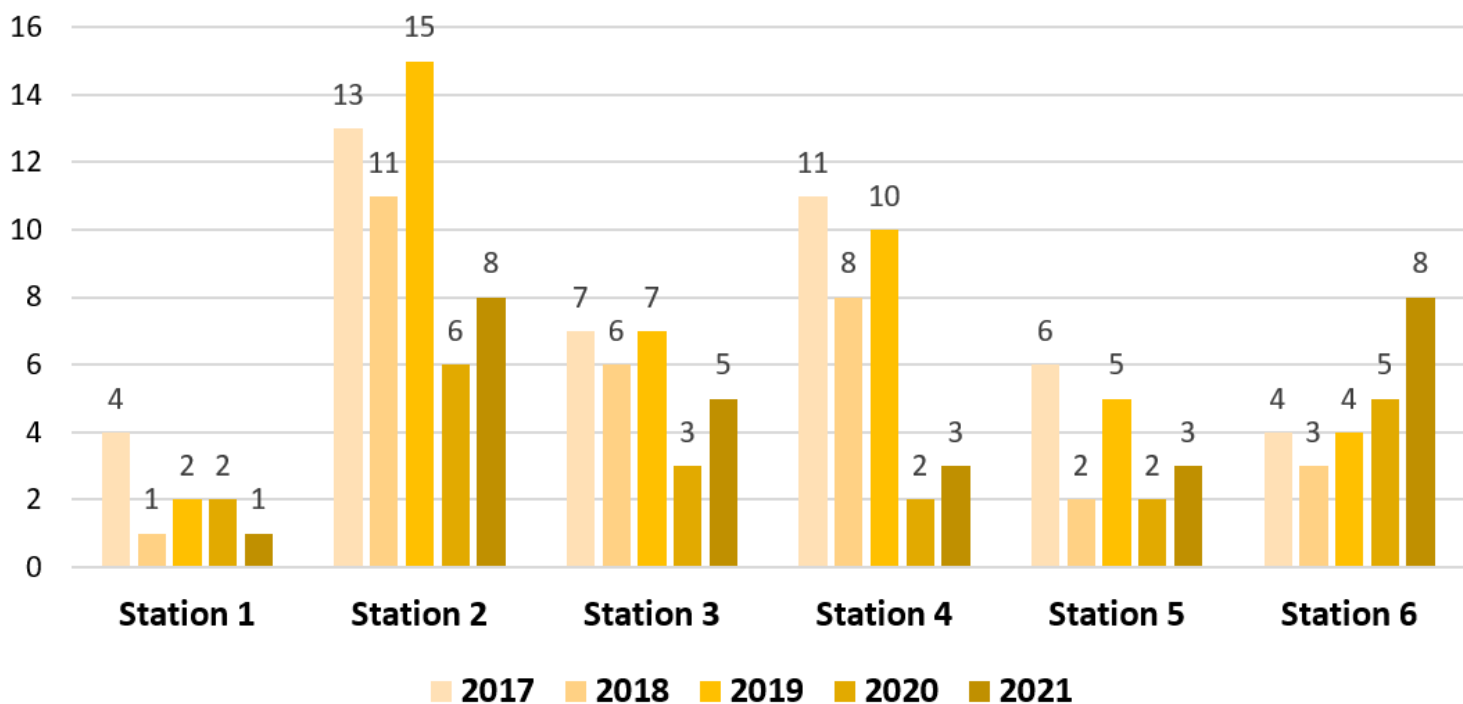
MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	CHANGE FROM 2020
Fires	246	193	214	185	186	+1
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	11	12	7	7	11	+4
Rescue & emergency medical service	5201	5400	5518	5311	6039	+728
Hazardous condition (no fire)	276	217	247	305	324	+19
Service Call	273	297	312	324	306	-18
Good intent call	726	847	958	908	872	-36
False alarm & false call	401	414	517	465	580	+115
Severe weather & natural disaster	0	2	4	10	1	-9
Special incident type	5	7	8	7	8	+1
Total	7139	7389	7785	7522	8327	+805



## STRUCTURE FIRES BY STATION (5.2% INCREASE FROM 2021)

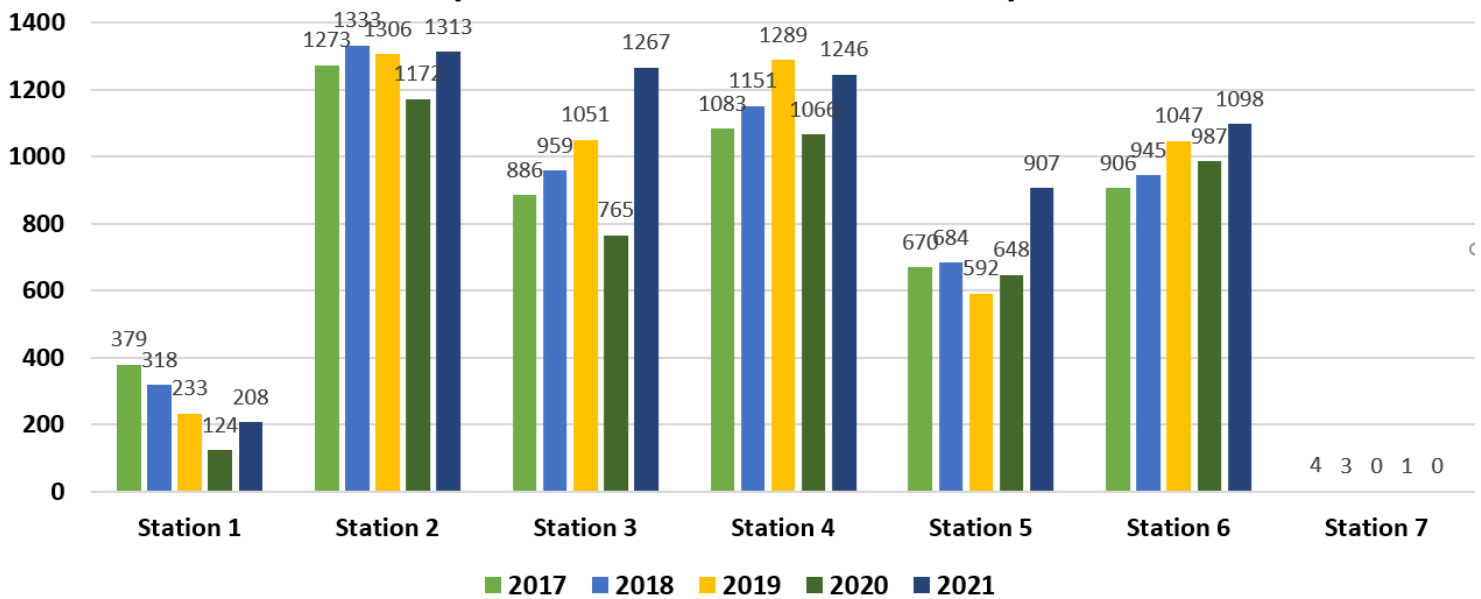


## COOKING FIRES BY STATION (40% INCREASE FROM 2021)





## EMS AND RESCUE CALLS BY STATION (26.8% INCREASE from 2020)



## PERCENTAGE OF CALL TYPES

■ EMS & Rescue Calls    ■ All Other Responses

